

IN ORDER TO
INVESTIGATE
THE THREAT, WE
BOARDED THE TRAIN
HEADED FOR
SHIKOTSLI-GA-HARA
IN HOKKAIDO.

This coming April 28th
I have cast a magic spell on the
train passing through Shikotsu-
ga-Hara marshlands in Hokkaido.
Enjoy the magic of death and fear.
- The Puppetmaster.

IT ALL STARTED
WITH A PERSON
CALLING HIMSELF
THE PUPPETMASTER
SENDING A THRE-
ENING LETTER TO
THE POLICE.

PLACED
AMONG
ROSES IN A
COMPARTMENT.

...AND WE
RETURNED
TO FIND THE
LEADER OF
THE MAGIC
& ILLUSION
TROUPE,
DEAD.

A FAKE
BOMB
THREAT
CLEARED
THE
TRAIN...

IT HAD
DISAPPEARED,
AS IF BY
MAGIC!

BUT WHEN WE
TOOK OUR EYES
OFF THE CORPSE
FOR ONE
MOMENT...

WHAT
THE..?!

BUT, NOW

金田一事件簿
少年の事件簿
THE KENDAIJI CASE FILES

...YAMAGAMI-SAN'S BODY HAD RETURNED, REAPPEARING IN ONE OF THE HOTEL ROOMS.

THE BODY MUTILATED TO RESEMBLE THE BENT MARIONETTE SENT BY THE PUPPETMASTER TO THE POLICE.

まじゅつかれつしやさつじんじけん
魔術列車殺人事件 5
MAGICAL EXPRESS MURDER CASE (5)

DOES THAT MEAN
THAT TONIGHT'S
MAGIC SHOW IS
CANCELLED?

IT'S NOT
LIKE WE HAVE
A CORONER
LOOKING AT IT,
SO I CAN'T SAY
FOR SURE,
BUT...

THEY SAID
THAT THE LEADER
OF THE MAGIC &
ILLUSION TROUPE
WAS MURDERED!

MURDER?!

COME
NOW,
YUMI-
SAN.

SOB!

MY
HUSBAND

AND I'M FAIRLY CERTAIN THE
TIME OF DEATH WAS BETWEEN
9 A.M. THIS MORNING AND
NOON!

YAMAGAMI'S CAUSE
OF DEATH WAS
MOST LIKELY A
STABBING

IT WAS
HIS BODY
WE SAW.

YEAH...!

THEN HE
WAS DEAD
WHEN WE
SAW HIM IN
THAT COM-
PARTMENT.

WE
WOULD'VE
BEEN ON
THE TRAIN
THEN.

WHAT'S
THAT
DOLL?

JUST
LIKE THIS
MARIONETTE.

NOW, THE BODY,
AFTER BEING
DISMEMBERED
FROM THE NECK,
SHOULDER,
ELBOWS, AND
KNEES...

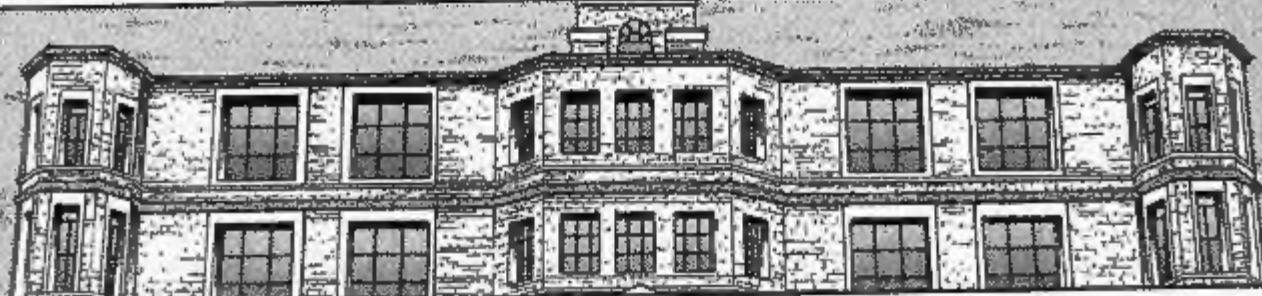
...WAS
NEATLY
TIED BACK
TOGETHER
WITH
STRING.

AT THE TIME, THE
MEANING BEHIND IT
WAS A MYSTERY.

THIS WAS SENT ALONG
WITH THE LETTER TO THE
POLICE, SUPERINTENDENT

WE'RE
DEALING
WITH A
REAL
SICKO.

WE NEVER THOUGHT
WE'D SEE SOME POOR
GUY MADE TO LOOK
JUST LIKE IT.





NAGASAKI-SAN, IS THERE ANY OTHER WAY OUT OF HERE BESIDES THE TRAIN?

NO, AS YOU CAN SEE, WE'RE SURROUNDED BY MARSH AND WETLANDS.

WHAT A SNEAKY BASTARD!

A FAKE NAME...

CLEVER.

AND WE'RE STUCK HERE WITH HIM!?

SO THE KILLER IS STUCK HERE!

...IS STILL BLOCKED BY MUDSLIDES AFTER LAST MONTH'S RAINS

AND THE ONE ROAD OUT...

HAJIME, I SWEAR!

A ROCK? WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT IT?

WHAT'S THIS DOING HERE?

JADE? YOU MEAN LIKE THE JEWELRY!?

IT'S NO ORDINARY ROCK, IT'S A RAW JADE STONE!

A LONG TIME AGO, WHEN THIS AREA WAS PROSPEROUS, YOU COULD HAVE FOUND THESE EVERYWHERE.

!?

OH, THAT'S
WORTHLESS
JUNK JADE.

I WONDER
HOW MUCH
IT'S WORTH.

IT'S SO
LARGE! AT
LEAST THREE
POUNDS!

THERE'S ONE DISPLAYED
ON EACH GUEST ROOM
AS DECORATION.

ALTHOUGH THE PLACE
HAS BEEN PRETTY MUCH
MINED OUT, IT'S TILL ONE
OF THE FEW NATURAL
RESOURCES OF
SHIKOTSLI-GA-HARA.

HMM, I SEE.

MYSTERY
SOLVED!

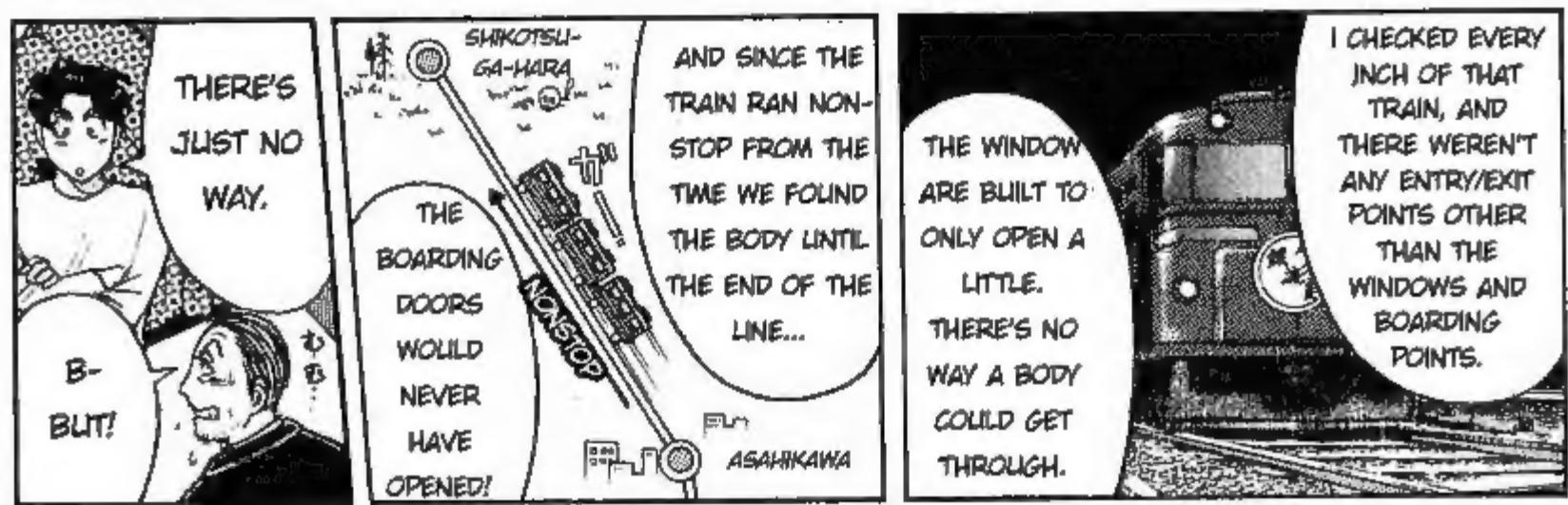
NO! I FIGURED
IT OUT! I KNOW
HOW THE
CULPRIT
BROUGHT THE
DEAD BODY TO
THE HOTEL.

ARE YOU
YANKING
MY CHAIN,
OSSAN?

I'VE
GOT
IT!



THERE WERE
TWO PUPPET-
MASTERS!







YUMI-SAN,
I'M SO
SORRY...

I EXPECT
YOU TO
BE GREAT
AS MY
OPENING
ACT!

I'LL SEE
YOU ON
STAGE.

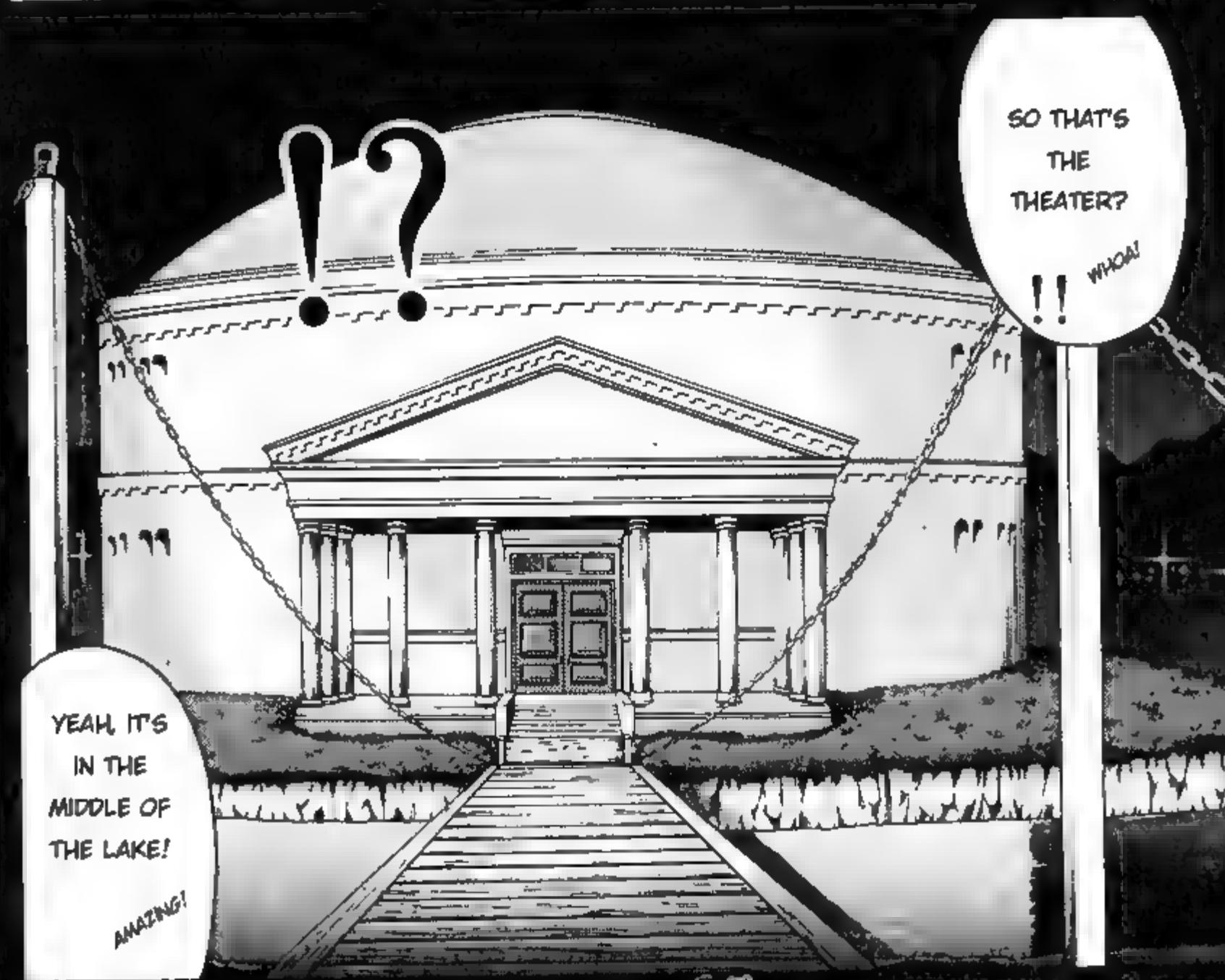
AND
YOU CAN'T
PERFORM
"THE LIVING
MARIONETTE"
WITHOUT ME.
CAN YOU?



OOH!
MARK MY
WORDS,
YURAMA!

NOTHING
SCARIER THAN
AN ANGRY
WOMAN!

I'M NOT
GOING TO
LET THINGS
END LIKE
THIS!





...PUT ON BY
YOUR VERY
GUILTY
APPRENTICES!

NOW, NOW,
THE SHOW
IS ABOUT
TO BEGIN...

REIKO-
SAN!

! ?

LET'S WATCH
TOGETHER...

YES! SHE
TOO WAS
A FAMOUS
MAGICIAN...

YOU
KNOW...?

IT'S THE
SPITTING
IMAGE OF
HER IN HER
YOUNGER
DAYS.

AH... I SAY,
THAT'S A
LOVELY
MARIONETTE.

TWITCH

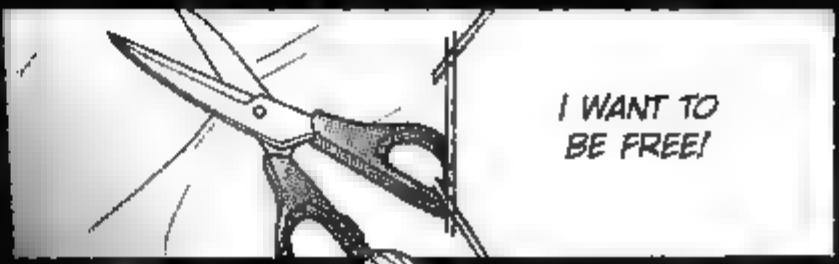
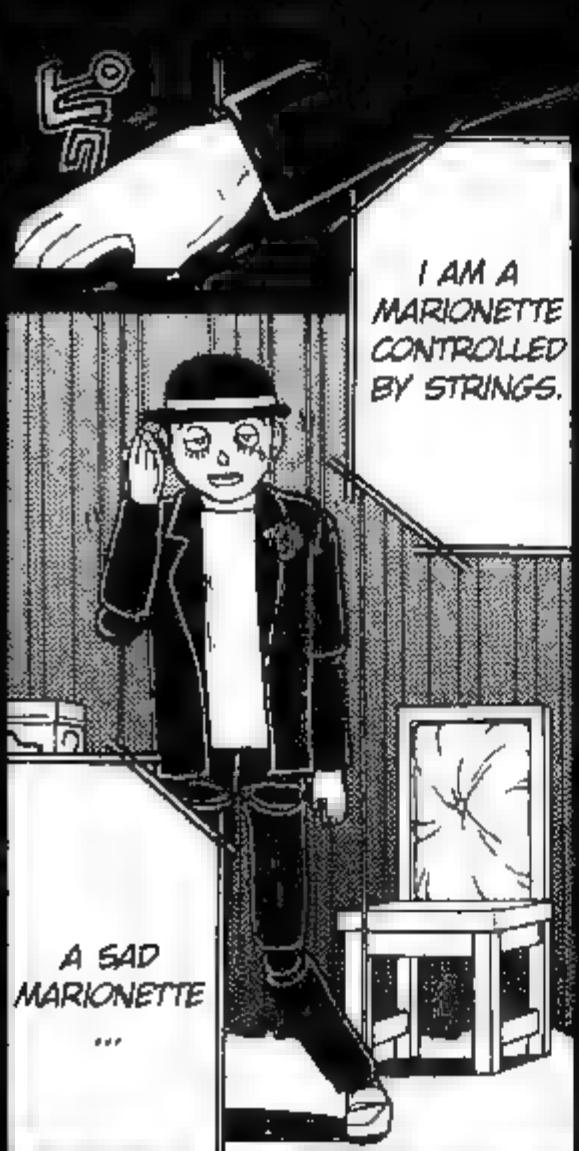
SHE PASSED
AWAY FIVE
YEARS AGO
IN THIS
THEATER.
DIDN'T SHE?

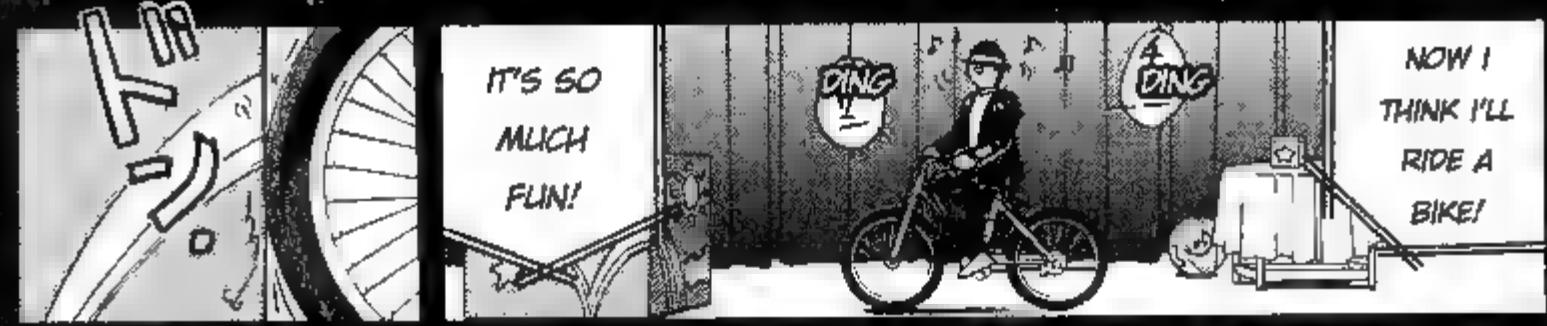
HER NAME
WAS REIKO
CHIKAMIYA...

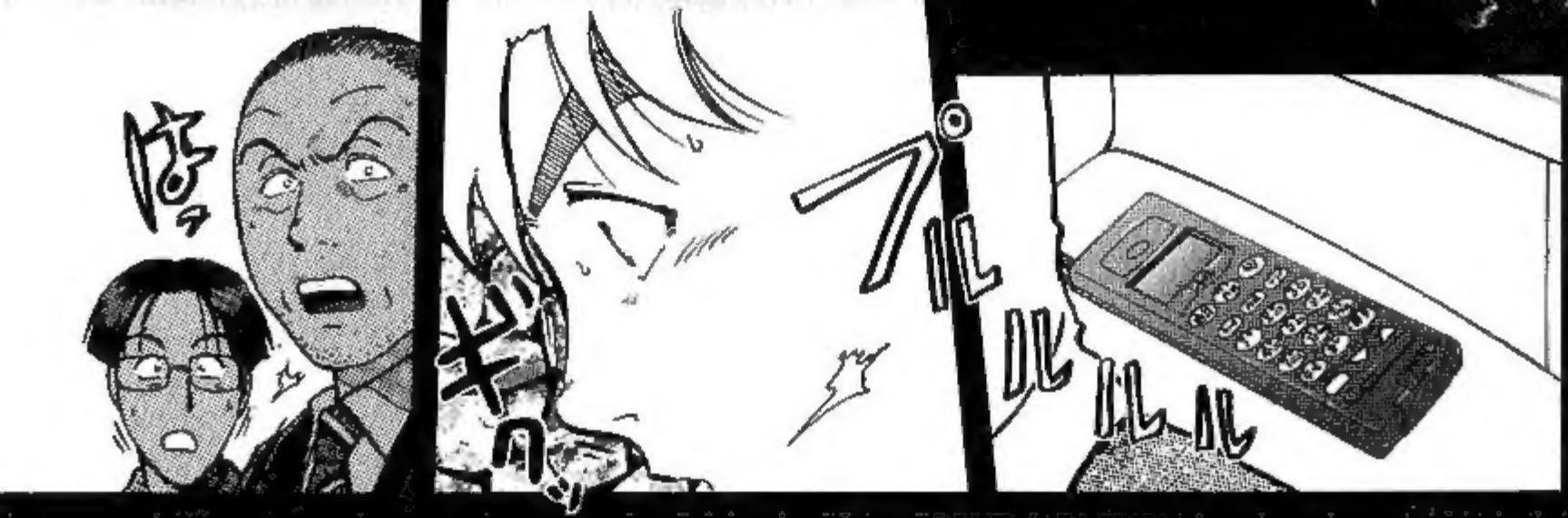
MAY I WATCH
WITH YOU,
NAGASAKI-SAN?



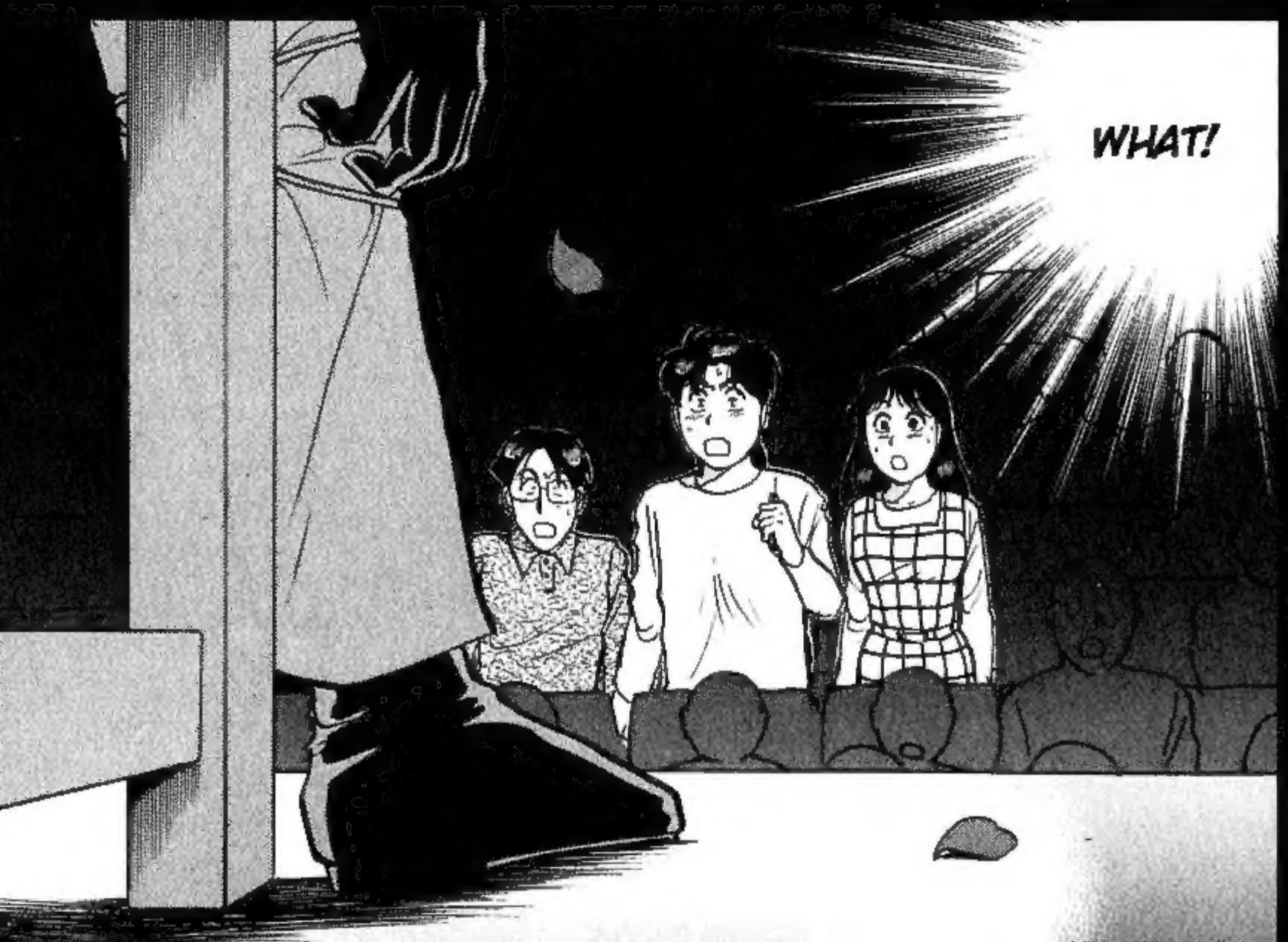
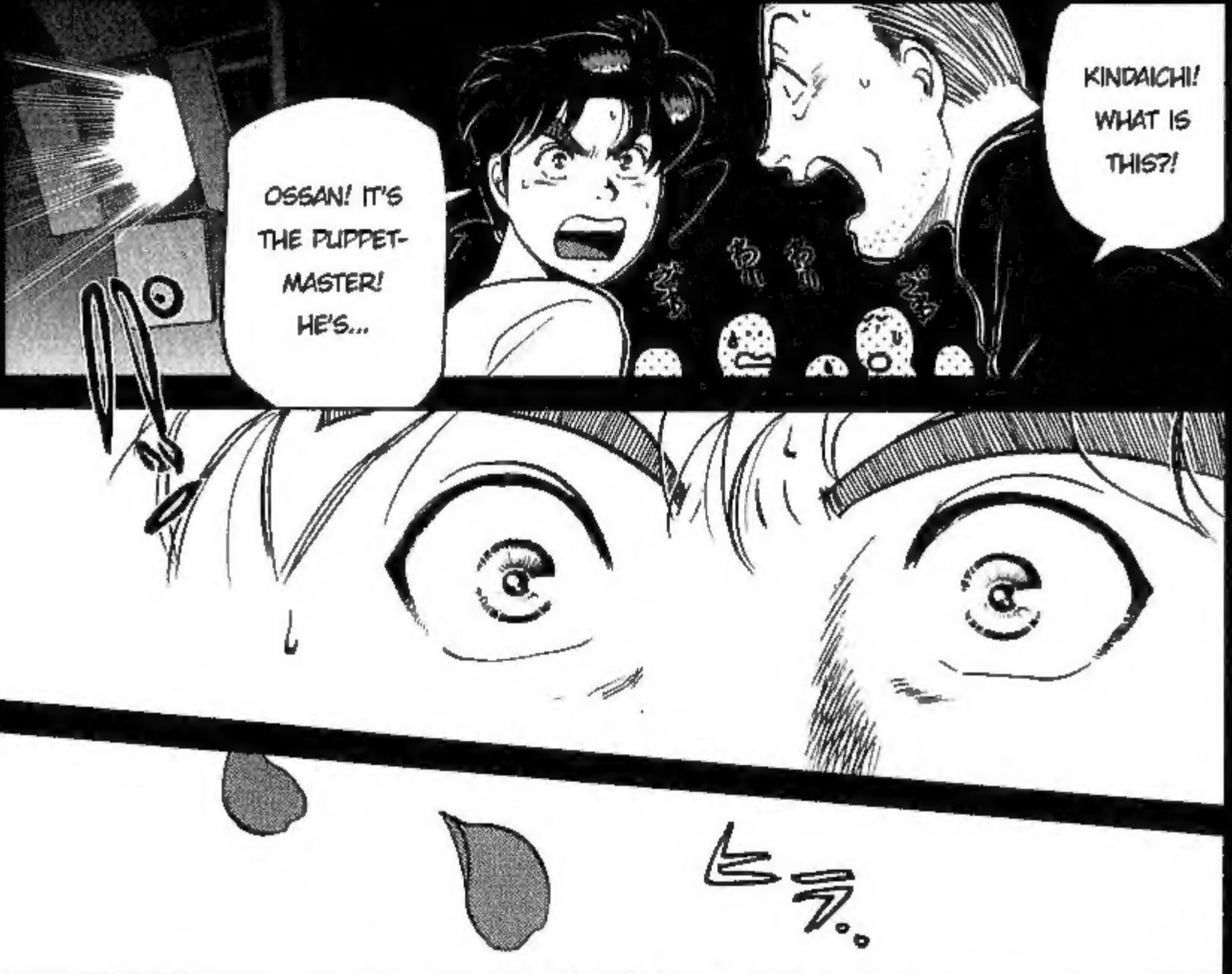












IT HAD TAKEN
PLACE IN ONLY
AN INSTANT...
DURING THE FIVE
OR SIX SECONDS
THAT THE LIGHTS
WERE OUT, THE
MARIONETTE
SEATED IN THE
CHAIR HAS BEEN
REPLACED...

WITH THE BODY
OF NOBLE
YURAMA,
STABBED
THROUGH THE
HEART WITH A
KNIFE!

THE PUPPET
MASTER HAD
STRUCK AGAIN!